

the Maria Convenience Store Girl

1



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三浦みつる







• headline: "38-year-old news of a convenience store..."



TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELF

BE CAREFUL
A LOT OF MEN
MAY TRY
TO TALK TO YOU



SHE'S
REALLY
GOOD ON
ON HER OWN

I FEEL
GOOD
ABOUT
FOR THE
AND
MYSELF

THE WHOLE
MESSAGE
WILL
SOMEHOW
WE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
SEE FOR
SOMEONE
FACE



SHE'S
BE A GOOD
ONE WHO
LET SUCH
A THING
HAPPEN
HERSELF

SHE'S CHEERFUL,
HONEST AND
BRIGHT
SUCH GIRLS
ARE RARE IN
THIS WORLD



ITEM 1.
Spring Has Come









I COULDN'T STOPPE
I PULLED
DOWN HIS
PANTS WITH
WILD
ABANDON
AND SLID
HIS FLICK
THICKING
MEMBER
INTO
MY MOUTH

I WHISTLED
TRONALLY
BEHIND
HIS HANDS AS
HE PULSED
CRISP INSIDE
MY ORAL



BEHIND
OUR HEAD
WORTH
WARMING
THAT...









1899













I'M SORRY
I HAVEN'T
SAID
ANYTHING
SINCE THE
MORNING



ARE YOU
HUNGRY?



WOULD YOU
GIVE HER
LEFTOVERS, THAT'S
DISGRACEFUL!

I'LL MAKE
SURE TO
CHECK THE
EXPIRATION
DATE ON IT



WELL,
I'LL BRING
YOU
A LIFT
ONCE
BENT.



THANK
YOU
FOR THE
MEAL





* Headline: "74-year-old owner of a convenience store..."





ITEM 2.
Be Grateful







DON'T WORRY
I'LL MAKE SURE
TO RETURN YOUR
FAVOR TO HIM
FOR YOU

BUT I
CANNOT DO
WITHOUT
RETURNING
THE FAVOR
TO HIM

YOU SEE,
MAMA,
I'M
GROWING
UP...



THEN,
AROUND
30 YEARS
LATER, SHE
FOUND HEARD
CHANCE IN A
NEWSPAPER
ARTICLE.



ISN'T OUR
GRANDFATHER
NOW
LIKE THAT?

NOW THAT
YOU REMEMBER,
GRANDMOM,
I'M TALKING
ABOUT THAT
IN THE PAST

HER LIFE
GAINED
BURN...



SO,
SINCE WE HAVE
A VACANT ROOM ON
THE SECOND FLOOR,
YOU'RE DELIGHTED
IF YOU STAYED
AT OUR HOME
AND WORK HERE.

YOU
MAMMY?

MY ENJOY
WILL SAY
THAT YOUR
GENUINE
APPRECIATION IS
ENOUGH.

HOWEVER,
I'M SURE YOU
AND YOUR
GRANDMOM'S
WISHES WON'T
BE SATISFIED
BY JUST
THAT ALONE.











RO-
ROBBER!!



























ROSEY



ITEM 3
Heart Meal



















BRUNO'S
HOUSE IS
LOCATED
JUST
AROUND
THE
CORNER

WE SUSPECT
THAT THE SUSPECT
BRAND IS IN HIS
HOUSE RIGHT NOW!
HOWEVER, SINCE
ALL THE WINDOWS
ARE CLOSED,
WE CAN'T SEE INSIDE.



THIS IS THE SPOT,
AS YOU CAN SEE, THERE'S
A LOT OF FURROW
AMONG THE CROWD
OF SPECULATORS
REPORTED



TRAPPA DA DA DA

OOH...



DON'T
PUSH

HEY,
DON'T
PUSH ME!

LET ME
THROUGH!



THERE'S
A HUGE
COMA-
MOTION
IN THE
CROWD

HURRY
UP
AND
COME























CONFIDENTIAL
I'VE HEARD THAT PEOPLE
LIVING IN TOKYO
WERE SO COLD--
LIKE MICROWAVES,
BUT IT'S NOT TRUE.
ALL OF THEM ARE GOOD
PEOPLE WITH
HEART BEATTS.





BOSSY



ITEM 4
Cleanliness



















WE
THERE'S OUT
ON THE
FLOOR NOW



ARE YOU DOING
THIS BECAUSE
WE'RE DIRTY AND
ARE TRYING TO
SHAME OUR
COUNTRY
AFTER US?

HEY



WE'RE
TRYING
TO BE A
TROUBLE

SHOULD
CALL
THE POLICE



I TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT
YOU ARE
COVERED
WITH DIRT
BECAUSE
OF YOUR JOB.

YOU
KNOW
NOW, AT
THE
CONSTRUCTION
SITE, JUST
AHEAD OF
THE
CITY, DON'T
YOU?



PLEASE, STAY
AROUND
AS YOU LIVE.

AND
DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
ANY
THING.



NEVER THINK
OF YOU
GUYS AS DIRTY.

THAT'S
JUST DIRT
ON YOUR
CLOTHING,
RIGHT?



ILL MAKE
SURE OUR
STREET
KEEPS CLEAN.







WHY
DO WE
COME
HERE?

NOT
ENTER
FROM
THE...



NO, WE
DON'T
GO
ANYWHERE
ELSE
YET.

THEY'RE
NOT
GONE
EVERYTHING
WILL
BE
GONE
YOU'LL
GET
IT
IN
YOUR
MIND



ENCLOSURE
MAY











NEXT
DAY







ITEM'S

Collection







WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN,
I CAN'T?



NOBODY
BUT IT'S
JUST NOT
SANITARY



BUT THERE'S
NOT A PROBLEM
IF I KEEP HOLDING
MY CAT
THEN SHE
CAN'T WALK
AROUND YOUR
STORE



NO INDEED
I NEVER
WANTED TO
BURY ANY
SUCH
THING

THAT
YOU DON'T
WANT AN
ELEGANT
YOU DON'T
WANT ME AS
A CUSTOMER
HERE?

WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING



PLEASE
TRY TO UN-
DERSTAND
THAT WE'RE
A STORE
THAT
CARRIES
FOOD

SO
FOODS ARE
STRICTLY
PROHIBITED
IN OUR
ESTABLISH-
MENT





















THE SENTO IS A TYPE OF JAPANESE COMMUNAL BATH HOUSE.













1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30

ITEM 6. Father's Day



FATHER'S DAY
IS COMING UP
SOON



FATHER







THEN SHE TOOKED HER YOUNG
SUPPLE BODY ONTO THE BED,
SIGHING WITH BLISS



ALL THE
PHRASES
JUST DON'T
FOGHT



OH
I DIDN'T
MEAN TO
SUGGEST
THAT
IGNORE WHAT
EVER
I JUST
SAID



I'M
SORRY



OH NOW
IT'S NOT
THAT
HARD...

I GUESS
A WRITER'S
JOB IS VERY
HARD





"WHILE SHE VACUUMED,
HE POUNCED ON HER FROM
BEHIND LIKE A WILD ANIMAL,
BRINGING HIS HANDS
WITH AN EROGIC HUNGER
THE MAN'S FINGERS PATTED
THE ENTRANCE TO HER TIGHTLY
LOCKED SECRET GARDEN"











THE NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL WILDLIFE FROM THESE OFFERS. DRINKING ARE POPULAR TOURIST DESTINATIONS. RESOURCES ARE LACKING IN THE COUNTRY.







THANK
YOU

YOUR
MESSAGE
WAS
GOOD
TO
KNOW
YOUR
UNDERSTAND
AND
WELCOME



WAS
A
PHONE
CALL
FROM
THE
STORE.
HE
SAID
HE
WOULD
BE
BACK
IN
A
MOMENT
I
THOUGHT

I
THOUGHT
THAT
HE
WOULD
BE
BACK
IN
A
MOMENT
FOR
HIS
STAYING
AT
A
HOTEL
TO
WRITE

I
HAVEN'T
SEEN
SHAO
SINCE
THIS
MORNING



SUNDAY, JUNE 2007



HEY,
SHE
MY
BROTHER

WAS
HAVE
YOU
BEEN
YOU
PROMISED
TO
HELP
RUN
THE
STORE
TODAY
DIDN'T
YOU?



I
SEE
HE'S
WORKING
HARD
AS
WELL





THIS BAND THAT WAS SCHEDULED TO PLAY A JOJO CONCERT TODAY SUDDENLY SAILED. MY BAND JUST GOT CALLED IN TO FILL IN FOR THEM INSTEAD.









AS YOU
WISH I'LL
GO TAKE
IT RIGHT
NOW!



PLEASE
GO TAKE YOUR
BATH NOW
THE WATER IS
READY



THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH



OH MY
GOD!
GOOD
EVENING

WAS
YOU'RE
HERE
ALLBY
YOURSELF
TODAY?



WELCOME!







THEN MY
GRANDMA
TOOK ME IN
AND RAISED
ME IN HER
VILLAGE



ACTUALLY, FOR
AS LONG AS I CAN
REMEMBER, I'VE
ALWAYS HATED
MOTHER'S DAY
AND FATHER'S
DAY

THE OTHER CHILDREN
SEEM TO LOOK FORWARD
TO MAKING PRESENTS
FOR THEIR PARENTS...
BUT I COULDN'T
DO THAT



ON THE WAY
BACK FROM
A FAMILY
VACATION,
WE WERE IN A
TERRIBLE CAR
ACCIDENT
SOMEHOW I
SURVIVED

I ONLY KNOW
MY PARENTS AS
A LITTLE BABY,
SO I BARELY
REMEMBER
ANYTHING
ABOUT THEM



MAMA, PERHAPS
YOU THINK THAT
MOTHER'S DAY
AND FATHER'S DAY
ARE ONLY DAYS
FOR APPRECIATING
YOUR PARENTS...











GRANDMA,
WHAT IS THIS
FOR?

I'M
HOME

ITEM 7
Celebrate
your birthday



HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
MAGGIE



YOU TOLD
ME YOU
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO EAT A
CAKE JUST
LIKE THAT
ONE!

GO HOME
WITH YOUR
TO BUY ONE
FOR YOU







WELL, IF THAT'S THE ONLY PROBLEM, LET'S JUST START TAKING CASE ORDERS ALL YEAR ROUND!



THEY'VE REALLY COME TOGETHER ON OUR LITTLE COMMERCIAL STORE, HAVEN'T THEY?

OTHER CUSTOMERS HAVE BEEN ASKING US FOR CAKES ALL MONTH.



IT'S JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE TO GO! LETTING PEOPLE COME BECAUSE WE SAID TAKE THOSE ORDERS AROUND THE HOLIDAYS.



IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PERSONAL STORES TO DO, BUT A FRANCHISE LIKE US WOULD RUN INTO A LOT OF PROBLEMS IF WE TRIED TO PROMISE THAT KIND OF SERVICE.

IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.



BUT WE'RE ABLE TO GIVE OUR CUSTOMERS BAKES AND FLOWERS THAT SOUND ABOUT RIGHT.

LET'S AT LEAST SUBSIDIZE THE CASE, THEN.



THIS ROCK
ISN'T
GONNA
BECOME A
REALITY



WELL, CONSIDER
THIS: WE'VE GOT
A LOT OF PEOPLE
WHO WANT TO
SEE A MOVIE THAT
ISN'T ABOUT
A FIGHTING
HERO. WE'VE GOT
A LOT OF PEOPLE
WHO WANT TO
SEE A MOVIE
THAT ISN'T
ABOUT A
FIGHTING
HERO.



WELL, CONSIDER
THIS: WE'VE GOT
A LOT OF PEOPLE
WHO WANT TO
SEE A MOVIE THAT
ISN'T ABOUT
A FIGHTING
HERO. WE'VE GOT
A LOT OF PEOPLE
WHO WANT TO
SEE A MOVIE
THAT ISN'T
ABOUT A
FIGHTING
HERO.



AND WE
ALREADY
OFFER A WIDE
VARIETY OF
DISCOUNTS.
WHY SHOULD
WE STOP
ADDING
MORE?

WE'RE ONLY
CONCERNED
WITH
APPEALING
TO BROAD
IDEAS. THAT
IS, THE
IDEAS OF
EVERYDAY
NEEDS.



BUT I STILL
DOUBT YOU'LL
HAVE A HIGH
ENOUGH
DEMAND FOR
THIS.



BUT WHEN YOU
THOUGHT I'LL SAY
"YOU CAN'T
AFFORD
BECAUSE YOU
WANT IT" I'LL SAY
"I'VE ALREADY
THOUGHT THAT WAS
THE GENERAL POLICY
ON HOW TO RUN A
CONSUMERS
STORE."

ALL THAT
MEANS IS WE
TRY NOT TO RUN
OUT OF
MERCANDISE IF IT
WAS A CHANCE OF
SOLD, SOLD IF WE
DON'T ALREADY
CARRY THE ITEM
IT'S CALLED A
"CHANCE LOSS."



NOT TO
MENTION THAT
THOSE DAYS IT
ISN'T EVEN
FASHIONABLE TO
SELL BIRTHDAY
CAKES WITH
CANDLES



WELL WE DO
ACTUALLY HAVE
CUSTOMERS WHOSE
COMING IS AND HESITANT
TO BUY CAKES
IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL
IF YOU COULD CONSIDER
OUR IDEA



IF YOU
CONSIDER IT
I'D BE HAPPY
TO REPORT
BACK TO YOU
WITH THE
RESULTS
JUST AS
YOU'VE
AGREED

MY JOB IS
SIMPLY TO
ACT AS A
PIPELINE
CONNECTING
THE HEAD
OFFICE AND
THE
MEMBERSHIP
STORES











HEY!
PLEASE
ORDER A
BIRTHDAY
CAKE!



IF YOU ORDER
YOUR CAKE IN
THE MORNING, WE CAN
HAVE IT DELIVERED THAT SAME
EVENING. AND IF YOU LIVE
IN THE HIGHBOURNE
WE'LL ORDER YOUR CAKE
RIGHT TO YOUR
DOORSTEP!



THANK
YOU FOR
SHOPPING
AT OUR
STORE

PLEASE
COME BACK
ANYTIME
YOU NEED
A BIRTHDAY
CAKE!



WOW!
SOMEONE
HOW TO TALK
TO PEOPLE
DOESN'T
SHUT!





WELL, IT ALL
OF A SUDDEN
STARTED
FOLDING
WHEN I WAS
VISITING
HERE, FROM
THE STATION.

YOU'RE
GOING TO
GET TOO.



GOOD
MORNING.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?

YOU'RE
THE GUY
FROM...





I SUPPOSE
YOU'RE HERE
TO TALK TO
ME ABOUT
YOUR "CASE"
PLAN

SINCE
IT'S STILL AN
EXPERIMENTAL
STAGE, WE DON'T
SHOW HIM
IT'S GOING TO
TURN OUT



HONESTLY
I DON'T
EXPECT THE
HEAD EFFECT
TO GO ALONG
WITH IT



WE'LL MAKE
YOU A HOT
CUP OF
COFFEE

OH
THANK YOU
SO MUCH



"HAPPY BIRTHDAY,
MR. HAZARD"









THERE
WAS
NOWHERE
TO BUY
CAKE IN
MY
VILLAGE



I WAS SIXTEEN
THE FIRST TIME
I GOT TO CELEBRATE
MY BIRTHDAY WITH
A CAKE



THAT
MADE ME
SO HAPPY



ON THAT DAY,
MY GRANDMA
WALKED THREE
HOURS TO GO INTO
TOWN, JUST SO
SHE COULD BUY
ONE FOR ME



THAT MEMORY
MADE ME FEEL
VERY SORRY FOR
THE CUSTOMERS
WE HAD TO TURN
AWAY, BECAUSE
WE SIMPLY DIDN'T
HAVE CAKES
FOR THEM



BUT I STILL FELT
THAT IT
HAD BEEN
MADE WITH
SOMETHING
VERY
SPECIAL

IT WASN'T
AS
BEAUTIFUL
A CAKE AS
THIS ONE

IT WAS SO
TOUCHED BY
THE GESTURE
THAT I WAS
ONLY ABLE TO
FINISH ONE
BITE







**THEM'S
Life-giving**







WHOA
TACKO!



ASK
TATSURO
FOR IT

WELL,
TACKO



THE
CUSTOMER
DOESN'T
WANT TO
PLAY
WITH...



I'M HOME



OH YOU KNOW
THIS LADY?

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?



IS EVERYTHING
OKAY? WHAT'S
WRONG?

WHAT'S
GONE ON?

SHE IS TACKO
YOSHIMA. OUR
SAND IS BECAUSE
YOU MET HER.
THAT ONE TIME
SHE CAME INTO
THE STORE

GAD I DON'T
REMEMBER THIS
NAME YOU
FORGOTTEN
HERE?









YOU
ADOPTING
AND
RAISING
THE KID.



THERE'S NO
CHANCE BEING
THAT'S GONNA
HAPPEN



YOU DON'T
LOVE TADPO
YOU DON'T
EVERONE HERE
AND YET



WHAT DO YOU
WANT ME TO DO?
I CAN'T JUST GO
GET THIS



THEN
I'D BE
YOUR
MOM TO
RAISE AN
ADULT



OKAY, MARIA,
IF YOU MARRY ME,
I'LL THINK ABOUT
ADOPTING
TADPO'S KID



SOMEONE
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO BE
IN LOVE TO
RAISE THE
AND ANYHOW
SHE
CHOICE
ME









STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELATIONSHIP-THAT-RELATIONSHIP
RELATIONSHIP OF US AND JAPAN SINCE THE 1970s RELATIONSHIP











TABBO!

THERE SHE IS!

WENT ON
DASH!
ARE YOU
DOING?



YOU'RE
GOING TO
LOSE THE
BABY IF YOU
KEEP THIS
UP!

JUST
LEAVE ME
ALONE!

NO
DON'T TRY
AND STOP
ME!

PLEASE,
STOP IT
STOP
SWIMMING!

IT'S NOT EVEN
TATSURO'S,
ANYWAY!

I DON'T
CARE
ABOUT
THE BABY!

I DON'T CARE
ABOUT THIS
CHILD!

EVEN IF I HAVE
IT, THIS KID
WILL NEVER
BE HAPPY

TAEKO!

WAAAA
WAAAA



GOD,
I HAD
NO IDEA

I HAD NO CLUE
THAT SHE HAD BEEN
TRAINING HIM
IN THAT
WITH
A MARIQUITA
ARM



HE'S
ONLY THINKING
ABOUT
HOW TO MAKE
HIS LIFE
EASIER

EVER SINCE
TELLING HIM
THAT I'M
PREGNANT
HE'S TREATED
ME LIKE GIFT



THIS WAS
BEFORE YOU
AND I HOOKED
UP. AND I'VE
USED YOU
FOR A REALLY
LONG TIME

BUT
I DIDN'T
CHEAT ON
YOU OR
ANYTHING



UNDER THAT
KIND OF
STRESS IT
MAKES SENSE
THAT YOU
DRINK



I HESITATED
TO SAY
SOMETHING
ANYTHING
AS SOON AS
I COULD

MY GODDAMN
TO ME I WOULD BE
ABOUT TO
HAVE AN
ABORT YOUR
MOVING INTO
MOMENT



SO YOU'VE
BURN
WORRIED
ABOUT HAVING
TO TAKE CARE
OF YOUR BABY
ALONE FOR
QUITE SOME
TIME







